

CITY OF MORGAN HILL

CITY COUNCIL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

SUBJECT: STREET NAMING POLICY

CP 94-13

DATE: AUGUST 5, 1992

(Revised June 15, 1994), REVIEWED AUGUST 22, 2007

It shall be the policy of the City of Morgan Hill to utilize the following street name program to establish any new or existing streets:

CITY OF MORGAN HILL STREET NAME PROGRAM

Purpose

The purpose of the street naming program is to enable the general public and emergency response personnel to locate addresses easily by creating uniformity, continuity and consistency within the City's street system. The street naming program is also to create defined neighborhoods and regions within the City to establish a sense of location.

Policies

The following policies should be applied when formulating new street names or renaming existing streets.

1. No duplication. There should be no duplication of street names within southern Santa Clara County and numbers should not be used as names. The only exception to this rule is when a court or cul-de-sac has the same name as the street from which it originates (e.g. Vineyard Blvd. and Vineyard Ct.). Using only a prefix or suffix to differentiate between the streets should not be permitted (e.g. Llagas Rd. and Llagas Ave.)

2. No phonetic similarities. Street names that sound very similar are to be avoided (e.g. Vista Ct. and La Vista Ct., La Roda and La Rocca).

3. Continuity. A continuous thoroughfare or one proposed to be continuous, should bear the same name throughout its entire length, even though it changes direction or intersects with another thoroughfare. If it is interrupted by the freeway, railroad or development where eventual connection is not probable, then segments should bear different names. A separate street name should not be assigned for a cul-de-sac that provides street frontage for three lots/units or less. The name should be the same as that of the intersecting street.

4. New Street Names

A. Theme Consistency. Existing neighborhoods within the city have established street name "themes". Common street naming themes have been established for all areas within and outside of the City limits. The established themes are shown on the attached map labeled Exhibit "A". New streets, whether public or private, developed within the city limits or in the area adjacent to the City, should name all streets consistent with the naming theme established in Exhibit "A".

B. Historical Names. The only theme deviation allowed for new street names is for the use of local historical names. The use of local historical names is recommended on arterial and collector streets.

C. Names to be avoided. Numerical street names (1st, 2nd etc.) and first and last names and company names should be avoided except within areas where names have been established as an existing theme or have historical significance.

D. Definition of names. The use of derogatory or offensive names is not permitted. The definitions of Non-English street names should be reviewed to assure that offensive or derogatory names are avoided.

5. Length of Names When ever possible, street names should not exceed twenty (20) characters including spaces between words but excluding directional suffixes.

6. Directional suffixes and prefixes for arterials. The suffix "Avenue" should be used on east west arterial and collector streets. Directional prefixes for east west arterials and collectors should use Monterey Rd. as the base line for the change of direction. Directional prefixes for north south collectors and arterial should use Dunne Ave. as the base line for change in direction.

7. Thoroughfare Designations: Thoroughfare designations should be used as follows:

Avenue

Avenues are a thoroughfare running principally in a east west direction and usually terminating at a north south street.

Boulevard

A major thoroughfare with a landscape median reflecting the boulevard character implied in the name. (Same definition applies to parkways)

Circle

A circle is a short street that returns to itself.

Court

A permanently closed street or dead end such as a cul-de-sac.

Drive

A road that meanders about and continues through to another right of way.

Lane

Indicates a private street and not public right of way.

Loop

A loop is a short drive that begins and ends in the same street.

Parkway (also see Boulevard)

A special scenic route or park drive, generally designated by a name.

Place

A permanently closed street or dead end such as a cul de sac.

Road

A limited thoroughfare that is frequently used, has heavy traffic volumes, and runs in any direction.

Street

A minor thoroughfare that changes direction or begins and ends on the same thoroughfare.

Way


A minor thoroughfare that changes direction or begins and ends on the same thoroughfare.

Street Name Corrections

Inconsistencies such as name duplication, sound alike or existing streets with several names, should be corrected as soon as possible. Correction of street names within occupied developments should be submitted to the Council for approval by resolution. Correction of street names prior to occupancy may be completed by filing a certificate of correction with the county recorders office.

Program Compliance

All street names and street name changes shall be in accordance with street name program adopted with this resolution. Deviation may be permitted only under circumstances where adherence to this program is infeasible or inadvisable.



JOE R. Martucci, Mayor

LEGEND

1. Herbs and Spices
2. Native American
3. Rocks and Minerals
4. Creeks and Springs
5. Spanish
6. Any name not in conflict with other established themes
7. Missions
8. Orchard Trees
9. Female Names
10. Numbers
11. Calle
12. Vehicles
13. Wildflowers
14. Birds
15. Animals
16. Any name not in conflict with other established themes
17. National and State Parks
18. Any name not in conflict with other established themes
19. Saints
20. Trees
21. Viniculture
22. Western
23. Spanish View
24. Oaks
25. Ranching
26. Mediterranean and Italian
27. Farm Products
28. Equestrian

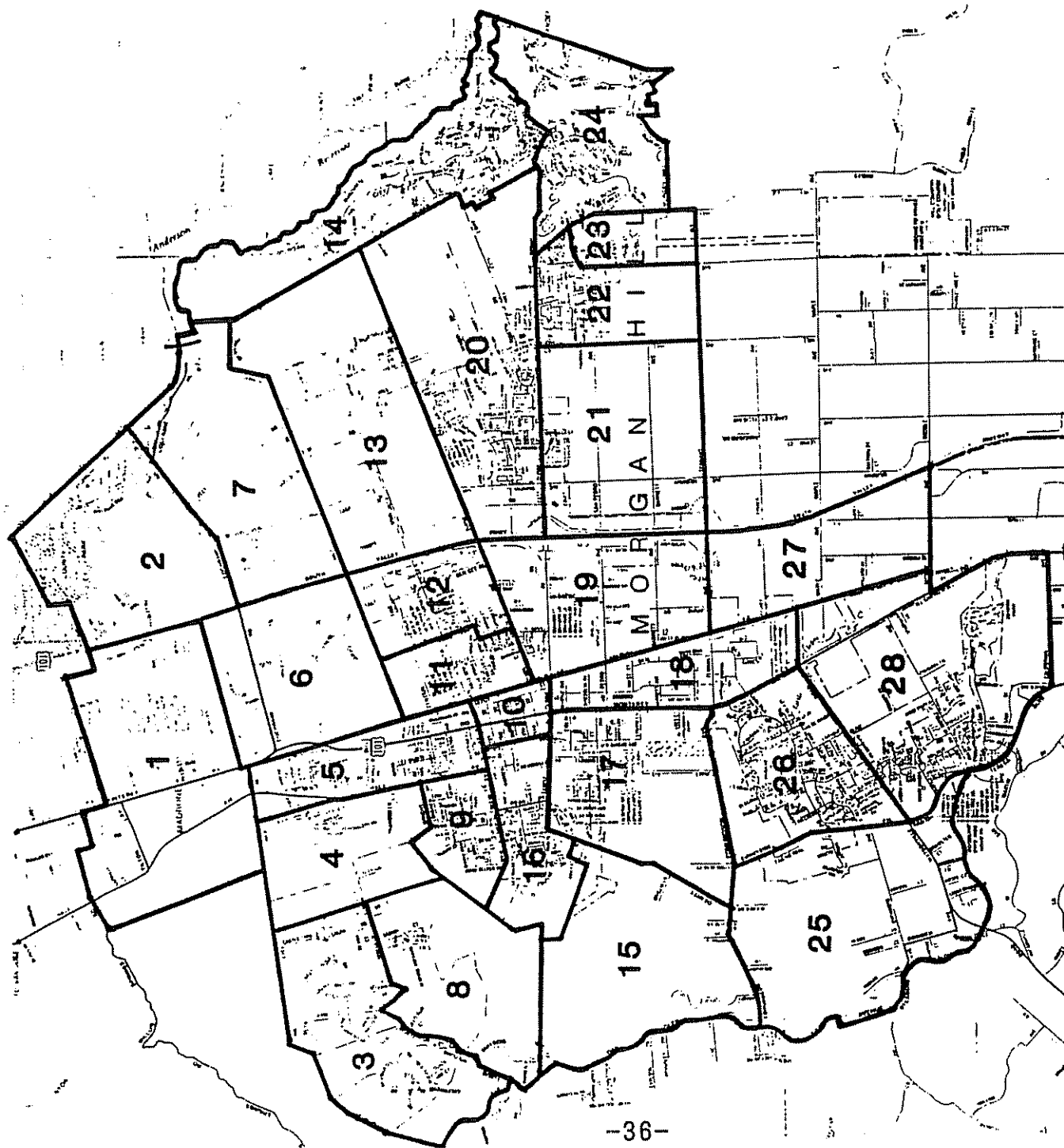


EXHIBIT "A" - Street Name Themes